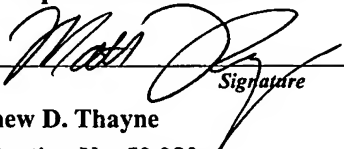


11-07-03

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)</b> Applicant(s): Blatter			Docket No. 11502/26	
Serial No. 10/624,311	Filing Date July 21, 2003	Examiner Not Yet Assigned	Group Art Unit 3762	
Invention: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS				
<p>I hereby certify that this <u>Information Disclosure Statement (including the items listed below)</u>  <i>(Identify type of correspondence)</i></p> <p>is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on <u>11/6/03</u>  <i>(Date)</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"> <u>Matthew D. Thayne</u>  <i>(Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i>  <u><i>Matt Thayne</i></u>  <i>(Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence)</i>  <u>EU976910244US</u>  <i>("Express Mail" Mailing Label Number)</i> </p> <p><b>Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of mailing.</b></p> <p>Transmitted: Information Disclosure Statement (3 pgs.)          PTO-Form 1449 listing seventy-nine (79) references (4 pgs.)          Copies of two (2) foreign references          Copies of ten (10) articles          Transmittal for Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs.)          Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail Label No. EU976910244US          Postcard</p>				

<b>TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> (Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))			Docket No. 11502/26
In Re Application Of: <b>Blatter</b>			
Serial No. 10/624,315	Filing Date July 21, 2003	Examiner Not Yet Assigned	Group Art Unit 3762
Title: <b>APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS</b>			
<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Address to:</p> <p>Commissioner for Patents            P.O. Box 1450            Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</p> <p><b>37 CFR 1.97(b)</b></p> <p>1.   <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>   The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>37 CFR 1.97(c)</b></p> <p>2.   <input type="checkbox"/>   The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:</p> <div style="margin-left: 40px;"> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).</p> </div> </div>			

<b>TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> (Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))			Docket No. 11502/26
In Re Application: <b>Blatter</b>			
Serial No. 10/624,315	Filing Date July 21, 2003	Examiner Not Yet Assigned	Group Art Unit 3762
<b>APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS</b>			
<b>Payment of Fee</b> (Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))			
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ is attached.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <b>50-2375</b> as described below.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Charge the amount of _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional fee required.			
<b>Certificate of Transmission by Facsimile*</b>		<b>Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail</b>	
I certify that this document and authorization to charge deposit account is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (F:		I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on _____ with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
_____ (Date)		_____	
_____ Signature		_____ Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence	
_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate		_____ Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate	
<b>*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.</b>			
 _____ Signature		Dated:    11/6/03	
<b>Matthew D. Thayne</b> <b>Registration No. 52,280</b> <b>STOEL RIVES LLP</b> <b>201 South Main Street, Suite 1100</b> <b>Salt Lake City, Utah 84111</b> <b>Telephone: (801) 578-6924</b> <b>Facsimile: (801) 578-6999</b> <b>CUSTOMER NO. 32642</b>			
CC:			



Express Mail Label No. EU976910244US

PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No.: 11502/26 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Blatter

Serial No.: 10/624,315

Filed: July 21, 2003

Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING  
REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit  
3762

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

1. Pursuant to the duty of disclosure, documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

- ☐ Copies of listed documents are enclosed. (37 CFR § 1.98(a))
- ☒ Copies of listed U.S. patent documents are omitted because this application was filed after June 30, 2003 and is, thus, subject to image file wrapper processing. Copies of listed foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed.
- ☐ Copies of the documents listed on sheet(s) \_\_\_\_\_ of Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are omitted because (1) they are already of record in U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, on which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120; and (2) any information disclosure statement filed in the prosecution of Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, complies with 37 CFR §§ 1.98(a) through (c). (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d))

2. ☐ The Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed copy of copending U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_\_, which is cited in this application.

3. This information disclosure statement is being submitted (check box a., b., or c.):
- a. ☒ Within three months of the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. (No statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required.); or
  - b. ☐ After the period set forth in paragraph 3a, but before the mailing date of either a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. (Check box i. or ii.)
    - i. ☐ A \$180.00 information disclosure statement submission fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed, or
    - ii. ☐ A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below; or
  - c. ☐ After the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance and on or before payment of the issue fee. A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below. Enclosed is a \$180.00 information disclosure statement processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
4. If a statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required, the attorney or agent signing below hereby states that:
- ☐ each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
  - ☐ no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
5. ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of each document not in the English language and/or selected documents in the English language is set forth below.

DATED this 6<sup>TH</sup> day of November, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt D. Thayne", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Matthew D. Thayne  
Registration No. 52,280

STOEL RIVES LLP  
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**CUSTOMER NO. 32642**

FORM PTO-1449  
(REV. 7-80)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO.  
11502/26:1 US

APPLICATION NO.  
10/624,315

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
(Uses several sheets if necessary)

TITLE: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR FACILITATING  
REPEATED VASCULAR ACCESS

APPLICANT - Blatter

FILING DATE:  
July 21, 2003

EXAMINER:  
(Not yet assigned)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1	6,401,721	06/11/02	Maginot			11/08/99
	2	6,319,226	11/20/01	Sherry			09/20/99
	3	6,293,965	09/25/01	Berg et al.			03/30/00
	4	6,280,460	08/28/01	Bolduc et al.			02/13/98
	5	6,264,633	07/24/01	Knorig			07/09/98
	6	6,261,257	07/17/01	Uffacker et al.			05/24/99
	7	6,254,563	07/03/01	Macoviak et al.			03/20/00
	8	6,248,117	06/19/01	Blatter			04/16/99
	9	6,210,365	04/03/01	Afzal			08/14/98
	10	6,200,257	03/13/01	Winkler			03/24/99
	11	6,171,319	01/09/01	Nobles et al.			04/27/99
	12	6,113,612	09/05/00	Swanson et al.			11/06/98
	13	6,102,884	08/15/00	Squitieri			04/07/97
	14	6,086,553	07/11/00	Akbik			07/01/99
	15	6,068,637	05/30/00	Popov et al.			08/29/96
	16	6,042,569	03/28/00	Finch, Jr. et al.			01/20/98
	17	6,030,392	02/29/00	Dakov			05/19/97
	18	6,007,576	12/28/99	McClellan			02/06/98
	19	5,976,178	11/02/99	Goldsteen et al.			11/07/96

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

	DOCUMENT	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
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EXAMINER INITIAL		NUMBER					IF APPROPRIATE
	20	5,961,536	10/05/99	Mickley et al.			10/14/97
	21	5,954,706	09/21/99	Sahatjian			06/07/95
	22	5,925,060	07/20/99	Forber			03/13/98
	23	5,893,369	04/13/99	LeMole			02/24/97
	24	5,868,770	02/09/99	Rygaard			05/28/97
	25	5,843,027	12/01/98	Stone et al.			12/04/96
	26	5,830,228	11/03/98	Knapp et al.			05/29/96
	27	5,830,222	11/03/98	Makower			10/11/96
	28	5,817,113	10/06/98	Gifford, III et al.			01/23/97
	29	5,797,934	08/25/98	Rygaard			06/29/95
	30	5,797,879	08/25/98	DeCampi			08/26/96
	31	5,795,325	08/18/98	Valley et al.			12/11/95
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	33	5,779,731	07/14/98	Leavitt			12/20/96
	34	5,766,158	06/16/98	Opolski			05/31/96
	35	5,755,775	05/26/98	Trerotola et al.			09/03/96
	36	5,702,412	12/30/97	Popov et al.			10/03/95
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	42	5,620,649	04/15/97	Trotta			10/11/95
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	44	5,616,114	04/01/97	Thornton et al.			12/08/94
	45	5,613,979	03/25/97	Trotta et al.			11/01/93
	46	5,478,320	12/26/95	Trotta			01/31/94
	47	5,458,568	10/17/95	Racchini et al.			09/17/93
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	49	5,443,497	08/22/95	Venbrux			11/22/93
	50	5,417,657	05/23/95	Hauer			10/06/93
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	56	4,623,348	11/18/86	Feit			08/13/84
	57	4,846,186	07/11/89	Box et al.			01/12/88
	58	4,819,637	04/11/89	Dormandy, Jr., et al.			09/01/87
	59	4,655,771	04/07/87	Wallsten			04/11/83
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	65	3,826,257	06/30/74	Buselmeier			07/14/72
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

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## FOREIGN PATENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	68	WO 98/19629	05/14/98					
	69	WO 98/19634	05/14/98					
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED			

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Autho, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.

1	Lycos, Your Personal Internet Guide, APHERESIS, located at <a href="http://infoplease.lycos.com/ipd/A0321273.html">http://infoplease.lycos.com/ipd/A0321273.html</a> , 1 pg, printed 6/12/03	
2	Clark Biocompatible Hemoperfusion System and Block Cutter, <i>Some Other Products from Clark Research, Clark® Biocompatible Hemoperfusion</i> , located at <a href="http://www.clarkrd.com/crd_other2.htm">http://www.clarkrd.com/crd_other2.htm</a> , 10 pgs., printed 6/24/03.	
3	HGSA, <i>Medicare Medical Policy Bulletin, Policy S-107: Hemoperfusion, Bulletin, Freedom of Information</i> , located at <a href="http://www.hgsa.com/professionals/policy/s107.html">http://www.hgsa.com/professionals/policy/s107.html</a> , 1 pg., printed 6/24/03.	
4	Facts about Plasmapheresis, <i>Plasmapheresis and Autoimmune Disease</i> , MDA Publications, located at <a href="http://www.mdausa.org/publications/fa-plasmaph.html">http://www.mdausa.org/publications/fa-plasmaph.html</a> , 4 pgs., printed 4/16/03.	
5	Publications, <i>Hemodialysis</i> , located at <a href="http://www.rein.ca/hem-e.htm">http://www.rein.ca/hem-e.htm</a> , 4 pgs., printed 4/16/03.	
6	Tennessee Kidney Clinics and Affiliates, <i>What is Hemodialysis?</i> located at <a href="http://www.dialysisclinics.com/hemo.html">http://www.dialysisclinics.com/hemo.html</a> , 2 pgs., printed 6/24/03	
7	<i>Good Nutrition &amp; Hemodialysis</i> , located at <a href="http://www.nyu.edu/classes/compnutrfood/Cecilia%20Fong/index.html">http://www.nyu.edu/classes/compnutrfood/Cecilia%20Fong/index.html</a> 1 pg., printed 6/24/03.	
8	Mulzer, S.R. and Brash, J.L., <i>Identification of Plasma Proteins Adsorbed to Hemodialyzers During Clinical Use</i> , Journal of Biomedical Materials Research, Vol. 23, 1483-1504 (1989)	
9	Ljungberg, B., et al., <i>Effective Anticoagulation by a Low Molecular Weight Heparin (Fragmin®) in Hemodialysis with a Highly Permeable Polysulfone Membrane</i> , Clinical Nephrology, Vol. 38, No. 2-1992 (97-100)	
10	Jen Ming Yang, et al., <i>Preparation of Heparin Containing SBS-g-VP Copolymer Membrane for Biomaterial Usage</i> , Journal of Membrane Science 138 (1998) 19-27	
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

CUSTOMER NO. 32642